GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:740
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009
FAKE FREEDOM FIGHTERS
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Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received complaints about fake freedom fighters getting pension on fraudulent certificates;

(b) if so, the total number of such complaints reported, cases registered and action taken against the accused, State-wise including Bihar;

(c) the action taken against the fake freedom fighters, State-wise; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government to check such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN)

(a) & (b): Complaints containing allegation of bogus/fraudulent claims for freedom fighter's pension are received from time to time. This is a continuing process. 35 complaints from different States about fake freedom fighters were received in the recent past.

(c): In most of these cases, where the allegations were sustained, the claims were rejected and if the pension had been sanctioned, the same was suspended/cancelled and recovery of pension ordered after following the prescribed procedure.

(d): Central Samman Pension is sanctioned only to those freedom fighters who fulfill the eligibility criteria and produce evidentiary requirements in support of their claims duly recommended by the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations. All claims received are examined and accepted/rejected as appropriate in terms of the stated norms under 'Swatantrata Sainik Samman Pension Scheme, 1980'.